

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF STATE HIGHWAY AND  
TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS

**AASHTO**

# Guide Specifications for Highway Construction

**2020**  
10th Edition



Cover Photos: California Dumbarton Toll Bridge Seismic Retrofit | Courtesy of CalTrans  
Indiana I65-I-70 South Split | Courtesy of Indiana DOT

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Pub Code: GSH-10

ISBN: 978-1-56051-731-3



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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Preface</b> .....	xxxiii
<b>DIVISION 100 General Provisions</b> .....	1
Section 101 General Information, Definitions, and Terms .....	1
101.1 Voice/Mood .....	1
101.2 References, Acronyms, Measurement Units, and Symbols .....	1
101.3 Definitions .....	4
Section 102 Bidding Requirements and Conditions .....	11
102.1 Prequalifying Bidders .....	11
102.2 Proposal Form Content .....	11
102.3 Issuing Proposal Forms .....	11
102.4 Interpreting Bid Proposal Quantities .....	12
102.5 Examining Documents and Work Site .....	12
102.6 Preparing the Proposal .....	13
102.7 Irregular Proposals .....	14
102.8 Proposal Guaranty .....	14
102.9 Proposal Delivery .....	15
102.10 Revising or Withdrawing Proposals .....	15
102.11 Combination or Conditional Proposals .....	16
102.12 Public Opening of Proposals .....	16
102.13 Reserved .....	16
102.14 Materials Guaranty for the Successful Bidder .....	16
102.15 Certifying Noncollusive Bidding .....	16
Section 103 Contract Award and Execution .....	17
103.1 Consideration of Proposals .....	17
103.2 Awarding the Contract .....	17
103.3 Canceling the Award .....	17
103.4 Returning Proposal Guaranty .....	18

103.5	Contract Bond . . . . .	18
103.6	Executing and Approving the Contract. . . . .	18
103.7	Failure to Execute Contract. . . . .	18
103.8	Escrow of Bid Documentation. . . . .	18
Section 104	Scope of Work . . . . .	19
104.1	Contract Intent. . . . .	19
104.2	Revisions . . . . .	20
104.3	Contractor Notification . . . . .	21
104.4	Maintaining Traffic . . . . .	22
104.5	Rights in and Use of Materials Found on the Project . . . . .	23
104.6	Cleanup . . . . .	24
104.7	Restoring Surfaces Opened by Permit. . . . .	24
104.8	Railway–Highway Provisions . . . . .	24
104.9	Construction Over or Adjacent to Navigable Waters . . . . .	24
104.10	Contractor’s Responsibility for Work. . . . .	24
104.11	Environmental Protection . . . . .	25
104.12	Contractor Proposals for Value Engineering . . . . .	25
Section 105	Controlling Work . . . . .	27
105.1	Engineer’s Authority . . . . .	27
105.2	Plans and Working Drawings . . . . .	28
105.3	Conformance with Plans and Specifications . . . . .	28
105.4	Coordinating Plans, Specifications, Supplemental Specifications, and Special Provisions. . . . .	29
105.5	Contractor Cooperation. . . . .	29
105.6	Preconstruction Conference. . . . .	29
105.7	Partnering . . . . .	30
105.8	Cooperating with Utilities. . . . .	30
105.9	Cooperation between Contractors. . . . .	31
105.10	Construction Stakes, Lines, and Grades . . . . .	31
105.11	Authority and Duties of the Resident Engineer . . . . .	33
105.12	Duties of the Inspector. . . . .	34
105.13	Inspecting Work. . . . .	34
105.14	Removing Unacceptable and Unauthorized Work. . . . .	34
105.15	Load Restrictions. . . . .	35
105.16	Maintenance during Construction. . . . .	35
105.17	Opening Project Sections to Traffic. . . . .	35
105.18	Furnishing Right-of-Way . . . . .	36
105.19	Project Acceptance. . . . .	36
105.20	Claims for Adjustment. . . . .	36
105.21	Administrative Claims and Dispute Resolution Process . . . . .	40

Section 106 Controlling Material . . . . .	44
106.1 Supply Source and Quality Requirements . . . . .	44
106.2 Local Materials Sources . . . . .	44
106.3 Samples, Tests, and Cited Specifications . . . . .	45
106.4 Certificate of Compliance . . . . .	45
106.5 Qualified Products List . . . . .	46
106.6 Plant Inspection . . . . .	46
106.7 Laboratory . . . . .	47
106.8 Foreign Materials . . . . .	47
106.9 Storing and Handling Materials . . . . .	47
106.10 Unacceptable Materials . . . . .	47
106.11 Agency-Furnished Material . . . . .	48
Section 107 Legal Relations and Responsibility to the Public . . . . .	48
107.1 Laws, Rules, and Regulations to Be Observed . . . . .	48
107.2 Permits, Licenses, and Taxes . . . . .	49
107.3 Patented Devices, Materials, and Processes . . . . .	49
107.4 Federal-Aid Participation . . . . .	49
107.5 Public Convenience and Safety . . . . .	50
107.6 Barriers, Barricades, and Warning Signs . . . . .	50
107.7 Using Explosives . . . . .	50
107.8 Protecting and Restoring Property and Landscape . . . . .	50
107.9 Cultural Resources . . . . .	50
107.10 Compliance with Federal Endangered Species Act and other Wildlife Regulations . . . . .	51
107.11 Discovery of an Unmarked Human Burial . . . . .	51
107.12 Protecting Forests . . . . .	51
107.13 Environmental Protection . . . . .	51
107.14 Storm Water Management and Erosion Control . . . . .	52
107.15 Responsibility for Damage Claims; Insurance . . . . .	53
107.16 Third-Party Beneficiary Clause . . . . .	55
107.17 Personal Liability of Agency Employees . . . . .	56
107.18 No Waiver of Legal Rights . . . . .	56
Section 108 Prosecution and Progress . . . . .	56
108.1 Subletting the Contract . . . . .	56
108.2 Schedules . . . . .	56
108.3 Limiting Operations . . . . .	61
108.4 Character of Workers . . . . .	61
108.5 Methods and Equipment . . . . .	61
108.6 Determining Compensation and Contract Time Extension for Excusable Delays . . . . .	61
108.7 Incentive or Disincentive for Early Completion . . . . .	64

108.8	Failure to Complete on Time . . . . .	64
108.9	Contract Default . . . . .	64
108.10	Termination for Public Convenience . . . . .	65
Section 109	Measurement and Payment . . . . .	68
109.1	Measuring Quantities . . . . .	68
109.2	Scope of Payment . . . . .	70
109.3	Compensation for Altered Quantities . . . . .	71
109.4	Extra Work and Force Account Work . . . . .	71
109.5	Eliminated Items . . . . .	73
109.6	Progress Payments . . . . .	74
109.7	Payment for Material on Hand . . . . .	74
109.8	Payment of Withheld Funds . . . . .	74
109.9	Acceptance and Final Payment . . . . .	75
109.10	Compensation for Project Delays . . . . .	75
109.11	Directed Acceleration . . . . .	76
109.12	Inefficiency . . . . .	76
109.13	Unrecoverable Costs . . . . .	76
<b>DIVISION 200</b>	<b>Earthwork . . . . .</b>	<b>77</b>
Section 201	Clearing and Grubbing . . . . .	77
201.1	Description . . . . .	77
201.2	Material . . . . .	77
201.3	Construction . . . . .	77
201.4	Measurement . . . . .	78
201.5	Payment . . . . .	78
Section 202	Removal of Structures and Obstructions . . . . .	78
202.1	Description . . . . .	78
202.2	Material . . . . .	78
202.3	Construction . . . . .	78
202.4	Measurement . . . . .	79
202.5	Payment . . . . .	79
Section 203	Excavation and Embankment . . . . .	80
203.1	Description . . . . .	80
203.2	Material . . . . .	80
203.3	Construction . . . . .	80
203.4	Measurement . . . . .	83
203.5	Payment . . . . .	83
Section 204	Subgrade Preparation . . . . .	84
204.1	Description . . . . .	84

204.2	Material	84
204.3	Construction	84
204.4	Measurement	85
204.5	Payment	85
Section 205 Reserved.		85
Section 206 Excavation and Backfill for Conduits and Minor Structures		85
206.1	Description	85
206.2	Material	85
206.3	Construction	85
206.4	Measurement	86
206.5	Payment	86
Section 207 Erosion and Sediment Control		86
207.1	Description	86
207.2	Material	87
207.3	Construction	87
207.4	Measurement	89
207.5	Payment	90
Section 208 Salvaging and Placing Topsoil		90
208.1	Description	90
208.2	Material	91
208.3	Construction	91
208.4	Measurement	91
208.5	Payment	91
<b>DIVISION 300 Base Courses</b>		93
Section 301 Reserved.		93
Section 302 Reserved.		93
Section 303 Reserved.		93
Section 304 Aggregate Base Course		93
304.1	Description	93
304.2	Material	93
304.3	Construction	93
304.4	Measurement	94
304.5	Payment	94
Section 305 Subgrade Modification		95
305.1	Description	95
305.2	Material	95
305.3	Construction	95
305.4	Measurement	95
305.5	Payment	95

Section 306 Reconditioning Existing Base and Surface .....	96
306.1 Description.....	96
306.2 Material .....	96
306.3 Construction .....	96
306.4 Measurement .....	96
306.5 Payment .....	96
Section 307 Lime-Treated Courses .....	96
307.1 Description.....	96
307.2 Material .....	97
307.3 Construction .....	97
307.4 Measurement .....	99
307.5 Payment .....	99
Section 308 Cement-Treated Base Course .....	99
308.1 Description.....	99
308.2 Material .....	100
308.3 Construction .....	100
308.4 Measurement .....	101
308.5 Payment .....	102
Section 309 Portland or Blended Hydraulic Cement Concrete Base Course.....	102
309.1 Description.....	102
309.2 Material .....	102
309.3 Construction .....	103
309.4 Measurement .....	103
309.5 Payment .....	103
Section 310 Lean Concrete Base Course.....	104
310.1 Description.....	104
310.2 Material .....	104
310.3 Construction .....	104
310.4 Measurement .....	105
310.5 Payment .....	105
Section 311 Lime or Fly Ash-Treated Courses.....	106
311.1 Description.....	106
311.2 Material .....	106
311.3 Construction .....	106
311.4 Measurement .....	107
311.5 Payment .....	107
Section 312 Fly Ash-Treated Course .....	107
312.1 Description.....	107
312.2 Materials .....	107

312.3	Construction	108
312.4	Measurement	108
312.5	Payment	108
Section 313	Open Graded Bituminous Base (OGBB)	108
313.1	Description	108
313.2	Materials	109
313.3	Construction	109
313.4	Measurement	109
313.5	Payment	110
Section 314	Open Graded Portland Cement Concrete Base (OGPCCB)	110
314.1	Description	110
314.2	Materials	110
314.3	Construction	110
314.4	Measurement	111
314.5	Payment	111
Section 315	Cold Recycled Bituminous Base Course, Cold In-Place (CIR)	112
315.1	Description	112
315.2	Material	112
315.3	Construction	112
315.4	Measurement	113
315.5	Payment	113
Section 316	Separator Fabric for Bases	113
316.1	Description	113
316.2	Materials	113
316.3	Construction	113
316.4	Measurement	114
316.5	Payment	114
<b>DIVISION 400</b>	<b>Flexible Pavements</b>	<b>115</b>
Section 401	Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) Pavements	115
401.1	Description	115
401.2	Material	115
401.3	Construction	115
401.4	Measurement	121
401.5	Payment	121
Section 402	Cold Mix Asphalt Pavement	122
402.1	Description	122
402.2	Material	123
402.3	Construction	123

402.4	Measurement . . . . .	123
402.5	Payment . . . . .	123
Section 403	Road Mix Asphalt Pavement . . . . .	124
403.1	Description . . . . .	124
403.2	Material . . . . .	124
403.3	Construction . . . . .	124
403.4	Measurement . . . . .	126
403.5	Payment . . . . .	126
Section 404	Tack Coat . . . . .	126
404.1	Description . . . . .	126
404.2	Material . . . . .	127
404.3	Construction . . . . .	127
404.4	Measurement . . . . .	127
404.5	Payment . . . . .	128
Section 405	Prime Coat . . . . .	128
405.1	Description . . . . .	128
405.2	Material . . . . .	128
405.3	Construction . . . . .	128
405.4	Measurement . . . . .	129
405.5	Payment . . . . .	129
Section 406	Chip Seal . . . . .	129
406.1	Description . . . . .	129
406.2	Material . . . . .	129
406.3	Construction . . . . .	129
406.4	Measurement . . . . .	130
406.5	Payment . . . . .	131
Section 407	Warm Mix Asphalt (WMA) Pavements . . . . .	131
407.1	Description . . . . .	131
407.2	Material . . . . .	131
407.3	Construction . . . . .	132
407.4	Measurement . . . . .	132
407.5	Payment . . . . .	132
Section 408	Microsurfacing . . . . .	132
408.1	Description . . . . .	132
408.2	Material . . . . .	133
408.3	Construction . . . . .	133
408.4	Measurement . . . . .	134
408.5	Payment . . . . .	135

Section 409 Cold Milling Asphalt Pavement . . . . .	135
409.1 Description . . . . .	135
409.2 Material . . . . .	135
409.3 Construction . . . . .	135
409.4 Measurement . . . . .	135
409.5 Payment . . . . .	136
Section 410 Reserved . . . . .	136
Section 411 In-Place Cold Recycled Asphalt Pavement . . . . .	136
411.1 Description . . . . .	136
411.2 Material . . . . .	136
411.3 Construction . . . . .	136
411.4 Measurement . . . . .	137
411.5 Payment . . . . .	137
Section 412 Surface Recycling . . . . .	138
412.1 Description . . . . .	138
412.2 Material . . . . .	138
412.3 Construction . . . . .	138
412.4 Measurement . . . . .	139
412.5 Payment . . . . .	139
Section 413 Fabric Reinforcement for Asphalt Concrete Pavement . . . . .	140
413.1 Description . . . . .	140
413.2 Material . . . . .	140
413.3 Construction . . . . .	140
413.4 Measurement . . . . .	141
413.5 Payment . . . . .	141
<b>DIVISION 500 Rigid Pavement . . . . .</b>	<b>143</b>
Section 501 Portland Cement Concrete Pavement (PCCP) . . . . .	143
501.1 Description . . . . .	143
501.2 Materials . . . . .	143
501.3 Construction . . . . .	144
501.4 Measurement . . . . .	155
501.5 Payment . . . . .	155
<b>DIVISION 550 Rehabilitation of Portland Cement Concrete Pavement . . . . .</b>	<b>157</b>
Section 551 Concrete Pavement Jacking . . . . .	157
551.1 Description . . . . .	157
551.2 Materials . . . . .	157
551.3 Construction . . . . .	157

551.4	Measurement . . . . .	159
551.5	Payment . . . . .	159
Section 552	Subsealing and Stabilization . . . . .	159
552.1	Description. . . . .	159
552.2	Materials . . . . .	159
552.3	Construction . . . . .	159
552.4	Measurement . . . . .	161
552.5	Payment . . . . .	162
Section 553	Resealing Joints—Liquid Sealant . . . . .	162
553.1	Description. . . . .	162
553.2	Materials . . . . .	162
553.3	Construction . . . . .	162
553.4	Measurement . . . . .	164
553.5	Payment . . . . .	164
Section 554	Resealing Joints—Preformed Elastomeric Compression Seal . . . . .	165
554.1	Description. . . . .	165
554.2	Materials . . . . .	165
554.3	Construction . . . . .	165
554.4	Measurement . . . . .	166
554.5	Payment . . . . .	166
Section 555	Resealing Joints—Silicone Sealant . . . . .	167
555.1	Description. . . . .	167
555.2	Materials . . . . .	167
555.3	Construction . . . . .	167
555.4	Measurement . . . . .	168
555.5	Payment . . . . .	168
Section 556	Sealing Cracks . . . . .	168
556.1	Description. . . . .	168
556.2	Materials . . . . .	168
556.3	Construction . . . . .	168
556.4	Measurement . . . . .	169
556.5	Payment . . . . .	169
Section 557	Partial-Depth Patching. . . . .	169
557.1	Description. . . . .	169
557.2	Materials . . . . .	169
557.3	Construction . . . . .	170
557.4	Measurement . . . . .	172
557.5	Payment . . . . .	172

Section 558 Full-Depth Patching .....	172
558.1 Description .....	172
558.2 Materials .....	173
558.3 Construction .....	173
558.4 Measurement .....	176
558.5 Payment .....	176
Section 559 Diamond Grooving Concrete Pavement .....	176
559.1 Description .....	176
559.2 Materials .....	176
559.3 Construction .....	176
559.4 Measurement .....	177
559.5 Payment .....	178
Section 560 Diamond Grinding Concrete Pavement .....	178
560.1 Description .....	178
560.2 Materials .....	178
560.3 Construction .....	178
560.4 Measurement .....	179
560.5 Payment .....	179
Section 561 Milling Pavement .....	179
561.1 Description .....	179
561.2 Materials .....	180
561.3 Construction .....	180
561.4 Measurement .....	180
561.5 Payment .....	181
Section 562 Portland Cement Concrete Bonded Overlays .....	181
562.1 Description .....	181
562.2 Materials .....	181
562.3 Construction .....	181
562.4 Measurement .....	185
562.5 Payment .....	186
Section 563 Portland Cement Concrete Unbonded Overlays .....	186
563.1 Description .....	186
563.2 Materials .....	186
563.3 Construction .....	188
563.4 Measurement .....	189
563.5 Payment .....	190
Section 564 Portland Cement Concrete Direct Partially Bonded Overlays .....	191
564.1 Description .....	191
564.2 Materials .....	191

564.3	Construction	191
564.4	Measurement	192
564.5	Payment	193
Section 565 Recycling Portland Cement Concrete Pavement (PCCP)		194
565.1	Description	194
565.2	Materials	194
565.3	Construction	194
565.4	Measurement	196
565.5	Payment	196
Section 566 Portland Cement Concrete Shoulders		196
566.1	Description	196
566.2	Materials	197
566.3	Construction	197
566.4	Measurement	198
566.5	Payment	198
Section 567 Cracking and Seating		198
567.1	Description	198
567.2	Materials	198
567.3	Construction	198
567.4	Measurement	200
567.5	Payment	200
<b>DIVISION 600 Miscellaneous Construction</b>		<b>201</b>
Section 601 Concrete for Incidental Construction		201
601.1	Description	201
601.2	Materials	201
601.3	Construction	201
601.4	Measurement	203
601.5	Payment	203
Section 602 Reserved		203
Section 603 Culverts and Storm Drains		203
603.1	Description	203
603.2	Materials	203
603.3	Construction	204
603.4	Measurement	205
603.5	Post Installation Inspection	206
603.6	Payment	206
Section 604 Manholes, Inlets, and Catch Basins		208
604.1	Description	208

604.2	Materials	208
604.3	Construction	208
604.4	Measurement	209
604.5	Payment	209
Section 605 Underdrains		210
605.1	Description	210
605.2	Materials	210
605.3	Construction	210
605.4	Measurement	211
605.5	Payment	211
Section 606 Guardrail		212
606.1	Description	212
606.2	Materials	212
606.3	Construction	212
606.4	Measurement	213
606.5	Payment	213
Section 607 Fences		214
607.1	Description	214
607.2	Materials	214
607.3	Construction	214
607.4	Measurement	215
607.5	Payment	215
Section 608 Sidewalks		215
608.1	Description	215
608.2	Materials	215
608.3	Construction	216
608.4	Measurement	217
608.5	Payment	217
Section 609 Curb, Curb and Gutter, Paved Ditches, and Paved Flumes		217
609.1	Description	217
609.2	Materials	217
609.3	Construction	218
609.4	Measurement	220
609.5	Payment	220
Section 610 Turf Establishment		221
610.1	Description	221
610.2	Materials	221
610.3	Construction	221
610.4	Measurement	222
610.5	Payment	222

Section 611 Furnish and Plant Trees, Shrubs, Vines, and Ground Covers . . . . .	223
611.1 Description . . . . .	223
611.2 Materials . . . . .	223
611.3 Construction . . . . .	223
611.4 Measurement . . . . .	225
611.5 Payment . . . . .	225
Section 612 Mobilization . . . . .	225
612.1 Description . . . . .	225
612.2 Materials . . . . .	226
612.3 Construction . . . . .	226
612.4 Measurement . . . . .	226
612.5 Payment . . . . .	226
Section 613 Portable Traffic Barrier . . . . .	226
613.1 Description . . . . .	226
613.2 Materials . . . . .	227
613.3 Construction . . . . .	227
613.4 Measurement . . . . .	228
613.5 Payment . . . . .	228
Section 614 Concrete Barrier . . . . .	228
614.1 Description . . . . .	228
614.2 Materials . . . . .	228
614.3 Construction . . . . .	229
614.4 Measurement . . . . .	229
614.5 Payment . . . . .	229
Section 615 Erosion Checks . . . . .	230
615.1 Description . . . . .	230
615.2 Materials . . . . .	230
615.3 Construction . . . . .	230
615.4 Measurement . . . . .	231
615.5 Payment . . . . .	231
Section 616 Reserved . . . . .	231
Section 617 Reference Markers . . . . .	231
617.1 Description . . . . .	231
617.2 Material . . . . .	231
617.3 Construction . . . . .	232
617.4 Measurement . . . . .	232
617.5 Payment . . . . .	232
Section 618 Traffic Control . . . . .	232
618.1 Description . . . . .	232

618.2	Materials	232
618.3	Construction	233
618.4	Measurement	233
618.5	Payment	233
Section 619 Erosion Control Mats and Bales		234
619.1	Description	234
619.2	Materials	234
619.3	Construction	235
619.4	Measurement	236
619.5	Payment	236
Section 620 Filter Fabric		237
620.1	Description	237
620.2	Materials	237
620.3	Construction	237
620.4	Measurement	237
620.5	Payment	238
<b>DIVISION 700 Material Requirements</b>		<b>239</b>
Section 701 Hydraulic Cement		239
701.6	General	239
701.7	Portland Cement	239
701.8	Blended Hydraulic Cement	239
701.9	Masonry Cement	240
Section 702 Asphalt		240
702.1	Bituminous Materials	240
702.2	Hot Mix Asphalt	241
702.3	Warm Mix Asphalt	243
Section 703 Aggregates		243
703.1	Concrete Aggregates	243
703.2	Road-Mix Asphalt Surface Course Aggregates	243
703.3	Treated or Untreated Base Course Aggregates	244
703.4	Aggregates for Asphalt Base Course and Asphalt Concrete	244
703.5	Aggregate for Open Graded Bituminous Base (OGBB)	244
703.6	Aggregate for Open Graded Portland Cement Concrete Base (OGPCCB)	245
703.7	Aggregate Gradation for Asphalt Pavement	246
703.8	Aggregate Gradation for Cold Plant Mix Asphalt Pavement	246
703.9	Cover Coat Material Aggregate	246
703.10	Blotter Sand	246
703.11	Mineral Filler	246

703.12	Bed Course Material . . . . .	246
703.13	Masonry Mortar Aggregate . . . . .	247
703.14	Limestone Dust . . . . .	247
703.15	Aggregate for Riprap . . . . .	247
703.16	Filter Aggregate for Riprap . . . . .	248
703.17	Drainage Aggregate . . . . .	248
703.18	Aggregate for Protection and Filtration . . . . .	248
Section 704 Reserved . . . . .		248
Section 705 Fabrics . . . . .		249
705.1	Filter Fabric for Subsurface Drainage . . . . .	249
705.2	Fabric Reinforcement for Asphalt Pavement . . . . .	249
705.3	Separator Fabric . . . . .	249
705.4	Silt Fence . . . . .	249
Section 706 Masonry Units . . . . .		249
706.1	Clay or Shale Brick . . . . .	249
706.2	Concrete Brick . . . . .	249
706.3	Concrete Masonry Blocks . . . . .	249
706.4	Stone Masonry . . . . .	249
Section 707 Joint Materials . . . . .		250
707.1	Joint Fillers and Sealants . . . . .	250
707.2	Joint Mortar . . . . .	250
707.3	Flexible Watertight Gaskets . . . . .	251
707.4	Waterstops . . . . .	251
Section 708 Concrete and Plastic Pipe . . . . .		252
708.1	Nonreinforced Concrete Pipe . . . . .	252
708.2	Reinforced Concrete Pipe . . . . .	252
708.3	Perforated Concrete Pipe . . . . .	252
708.4	Concrete Drain Tile . . . . .	252
708.5	Porous Concrete Pipe . . . . .	252
708.6	Reinforced Concrete Arch Culvert, Storm Drain, and Sewer Pipe . . . . .	252
708.7	Reinforced Concrete Elliptical Culvert, Storm Drain, and Sewer Pipe . . . . .	252
708.8	Precast Reinforced Concrete Box Section . . . . .	252
708.9	Polyethylene (PE) Corrugated Drainage Pipe or Tubing . . . . .	253
708.10	Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Sewer Pipe and Fittings . . . . .	253
708.11	Polyethylene (PE) Corrugated Drain Tile . . . . .	253
708.12	Corrugated Polypropylene (PP) Pipe . . . . .	253
708.13	Acrylonitrile-Butadiene-Styrene (ABS) Sewer Pipe and Fittings . . . . .	253
708.14	Polypropylene (PP) Corrugated Drainage Pipe or Tubing . . . . .	253

Section 709 Metal Pipe . . . . .	253
709.1 Ductile Iron Culvert Pipe . . . . .	253
709.2 Metallic-Coated Corrugated Steel Pipe for Sewers and Drains . . . . .	253
709.3 Bituminous-Coated Corrugated Steel Pipe and Pipe Arches . . . . .	254
709.4 Metallic-Coated Corrugated Steel Pipe for Underdrains . . . . .	254
709.5 Bituminous-Coated Corrugated Steel Pipe for Underdrains. . . . .	254
709.6 Corrugated Aluminum Culvert Pipe . . . . .	254
709.7 Corrugated Aluminum Pipe for Underdrains . . . . .	254
709.8 Bituminous-Coated Corrugated Aluminum Culvert Pipe . . . . .	254
709.9 Bituminous-Coated Corrugated Aluminum Pipe for Underdrains. . . . .	254
709.10 Steel Structural Plate for Pipe, Pipe Arches, and Arches . . . . .	255
709.11 Full Bituminous-Coated Steel Structural Plate Pipe, Pipe Arches, and Arches. . . . .	255
709.12 Aluminum Structural Plate for Pipe, Pipe Arches, and Arches . . . . .	255
709.13 Full Bituminous-Coated Aluminum Structural Plate for Pipe, Pipe Arches, and Arches . . . . .	255
709.14 Polymer-Precoated Corrugated Steel Pipe for Sewers and Drains . . . . .	255
709.15 Nestable Corrugated Steel Pipe . . . . .	255
709.16 Slotted Corrugated Steel Pipe . . . . .	255
Section 710 Structural Steel . . . . .	256
710.1 Structural Steel . . . . .	256
710.2 High-Strength Fasteners . . . . .	256
710.3 Welded Shear Connectors . . . . .	259
710.4 Steel Forgings and Steel Shafting . . . . .	259
710.5 Castings . . . . .	259
710.6 Bearing Devices . . . . .	260
710.7 Painting . . . . .	260
Section 711 Reinforcing Steel and Wire Rope . . . . .	260
711.1 Reinforcing Steel . . . . .	260
711.2 Wire Rope or Wire Cable . . . . .	261
711.3 Prestressing Strand or Wire . . . . .	261
Section 712 Fence And Guardrail. . . . .	261
712.1 Barbed Wire. . . . .	261
712.2 Woven Wire. . . . .	261
712.3 Chain-Link Fence . . . . .	261
712.4 Metal Beam Rail . . . . .	261
712.5 Timber Rail . . . . .	262
712.6 Fence Posts . . . . .	262
712.7 Guardrail Posts . . . . .	262
712.8 Guardrail Hardware. . . . .	262
712.9 Steel Box Beam Rail . . . . .	262

712.10	Wire and Stakes for Wire-Enclosed Riprap .....	263
712.11	Gates .....	263
Section 713	Concrete .....	263
713.1	Concrete .....	263
713.2	Curing Materials .....	268
713.3	Admixtures .....	268
713.4	Self-Consolidating Concrete (SCC) .....	269
713.5	Mortar and Grout .....	269
Section 714	Miscellaneous Requirements .....	271
714.1	Water .....	271
714.2	Calcium Chloride .....	271
714.3	Lime .....	271
714.4	Stone Curbing .....	272
714.5	Precast Concrete Curbing .....	272
714.6	Precast Concrete Units .....	273
714.7	Frames, Grates and Covers, Ladder Rungs .....	273
Section 715	Roadside Improvement Materials .....	273
715.1	Topsoil .....	273
715.2	Agricultural Limestone .....	274
715.3	Fertilizer .....	274
715.4	Fiber Rolls and Socks .....	274
715.5	Floating Turbidity Curtains .....	275
715.6	Gravel Bags .....	275
715.7	Prefabricated Filter Insert .....	275
715.8	Seed .....	275
715.9	Sediment Filter Bags .....	276
715.10	Tackifiers .....	276
715.11	Temporary Rolled Erosion-Control Products .....	277
715.12	Turf Reinforcement Mats .....	280
715.13	Mulch .....	280
715.14	Plant Materials .....	283
715.15	Erosion and Sediment Control Materials .....	284
715.16	Miscellaneous Landscape Materials .....	285
Section 716	Aluminum for Structures .....	286
716.1	Aluminum Materials .....	286
716.2	Fasteners .....	286
716.3	Welded Shear Connectors .....	287
716.4	Aluminum Forgings .....	287
716.5	Castings .....	287

Section 717 Timber . . . . .	287
717.1 Sawed Timber . . . . .	287
717.2 Structural Glued, Laminated Timber . . . . .	287
717.3 Timber Treatment . . . . .	287
717.4 Timber Connectors and Hardware . . . . .	288
717.5 Painting . . . . .	288
717.6 Certificates of Compliance. . . . .	288
Section 718 Ground Anchors and Related Materials . . . . .	289
718.1 Anchorage Devices . . . . .	289
718.2 Bondbreaker . . . . .	289
718.3 Anchor Grout. . . . .	290
718.4 Centralizers . . . . .	290
718.5 Corrosion-Inhibiting Compound . . . . .	290
718.6 Heat Shrinkable Sleeves. . . . .	291
718.7 Prestressing Steel . . . . .	291
718.8 Sheath. . . . .	291
718.9 Spacers . . . . .	292
718.10 Tendon Bond Length Encapsulations . . . . .	292
<b>DIVISION 800 Structures . . . . .</b>	<b>293</b>
Section 801 Excavation and Backfill for Major Structures . . . . .	293
801.1 Description. . . . .	293
801.2 Materials . . . . .	293
801.3 Construction . . . . .	293
801.4 Measurement . . . . .	294
801.5 Payment . . . . .	294
Section 802 Removal of Existing Structures . . . . .	295
802.1 Description. . . . .	295
802.2 Materials . . . . .	295
802.3 Construction . . . . .	295
802.4 Measurement . . . . .	295
802.5 Payment . . . . .	295
Section 803 Temporary Works . . . . .	296
803.1 Description. . . . .	296
803.2 Materials . . . . .	296
803.3 Construction . . . . .	296
803.4 Measurement . . . . .	300
803.5 Payment . . . . .	300

Section 804 Driven Foundation Piles . . . . .	301
804.1 Description . . . . .	301
804.2 Materials . . . . .	301
804.3 Construction . . . . .	301
804.4 Measurement . . . . .	316
804.5 Payment . . . . .	317
Section 805 Drilled Piles and Shafts . . . . .	317
805.1 Description . . . . .	317
805.2 Materials . . . . .	317
805.3 Construction . . . . .	318
805.4 Measurement . . . . .	335
805.5 Payment . . . . .	336
Section 806 Ground Anchors . . . . .	336
806.1 Description . . . . .	336
806.2 Materials . . . . .	336
806.3 Construction . . . . .	336
806.4 Measurement . . . . .	351
806.5 Payment . . . . .	351
Section 807 Earth Retaining Systems . . . . .	351
807.1 Description . . . . .	351
807.2 Materials . . . . .	351
807.3 Construction . . . . .	352
807.4 Measurement . . . . .	357
807.5 Payment . . . . .	358
Section 808 Concrete Structures . . . . .	358
808.1 Description . . . . .	358
808.2 Materials . . . . .	358
808.3 Construction . . . . .	359
808.4 Measurement . . . . .	376
808.5 Payment . . . . .	376
Section 809 Reinforcing Steel . . . . .	376
809.1 Description . . . . .	376
809.2 Materials . . . . .	376
809.3 Construction . . . . .	376
809.4 Measurement . . . . .	377
809.5 Payment . . . . .	377
Section 810 Prestressed Concrete . . . . .	378
810.6 Description . . . . .	378
810.7 Materials . . . . .	378

810.8	Construction	378
810.9	Measurement	381
810.10	Payment	381
Section 811 Steel Structures		382
811.1	Description	382
811.2	Materials	382
811.3	Construction	382
811.4	Measurement	400
811.5	Payment	402
Section 812 Steel Grid Flooring		402
812.1	Description	402
812.2	Materials	402
812.3	Construction	402
812.4	Measurement	404
812.5	812.5. Payment	404
Section 813 Painting		404
813.1	Description	404
813.2	Materials	404
813.3	Construction	404
813.4	Measurement	410
813.5	Payment	410
Section 814 Stone Masonry		410
814.1	Description	410
814.2	Materials	410
814.3	Construction	411
814.4	Measurement	413
814.5	Payment	413
Section 815 Concrete Block and Brick Masonry		413
815.1	Description	413
815.2	Materials	414
815.3	Construction	414
815.4	Measurement	415
815.5	Payment	415
Section 816 Timber Structures		415
816.1	Description	415
816.2	Materials	415
816.3	Construction	415
816.4	Measurement	419
816.5	Payment	420

Section 817 Reserved . . . . .	420
Section 818 Bearing Devices . . . . .	420
818.1 Description . . . . .	420
818.2 Materials . . . . .	420
818.3 Construction . . . . .	421
818.4 Measurement . . . . .	424
818.5 Payment . . . . .	425
Section 819 Bridge Deck Joint Seals . . . . .	425
819.1 Description . . . . .	425
819.2 Materials . . . . .	425
819.3 Construction . . . . .	426
819.4 Measurement . . . . .	427
819.5 Payment . . . . .	427
Section 820 Rails . . . . .	427
820.1 Description . . . . .	427
820.2 Material . . . . .	427
820.3 Construction . . . . .	428
820.4 Measurement . . . . .	428
820.5 Payment . . . . .	429
Section 821 Waterproof or Dampproof Concrete or Masonry Surfaces . . . . .	429
821.1 Description . . . . .	429
821.2 Materials . . . . .	429
821.3 Requirements . . . . .	430
821.4 Measurement . . . . .	431
821.5 Payment . . . . .	431
Section 822 Slope Protection . . . . .	431
822.1 Description . . . . .	431
822.2 Materials . . . . .	432
822.3 Construction . . . . .	432
822.4 Measurement . . . . .	434
822.5 Payment . . . . .	434
Section 823 Miscellaneous Metals . . . . .	435
823.1 Description . . . . .	435
823.2 Materials . . . . .	435
823.3 Construction . . . . .	435
823.4 Measurement . . . . .	435
823.5 Payment . . . . .	436
Section 824 Pneumatically Applied Mortar . . . . .	436
824.1 Description . . . . .	436

824.2	Materials	436
824.3	Requirements	437
824.4	Measurement	439
824.5	Payment	439
Section 825 Steel and Concrete Tunnel Liners		439
825.1	Description	439
825.2	Materials	440
825.3	Construction	440
825.4	Measurement	440
825.5	Payment	440
Section 826 Reserved		441
Section 827 Reserved		441
Section 828 Latex-Modified Concrete Surface		441
828.1	Description	441
828.2	Materials	441
828.3	Construction	441
828.4	Measurement	445
828.5	Payment	445
Section 829 Embedment Anchors		445
829.1	Description	445
829.2	Materials	445
829.3	Construction	446
829.4	Measurement	446
829.5	Payment	446
Section 830 Reserved		447
Section 831 Aluminum Structures		447
831.1	Description	447
831.2	Materials	447
831.3	Construction	447
831.4	Measurement	447
831.5	Payment	448
<b>APPENDIXES X1–X7 SPECIAL AND TECHNICAL PROVISIONS</b>		<b>449</b>
<b>Appendix X1 Generic Warranty</b>		<b>451</b>
X1.1	Description	451
X1.2	Warranty Bond	451
X1.3	Warranty Provisions	452
X1.4	Emergency Work	453

X1.5	Exceptions . . . . .	453
X1.6	Conflict Resolution Team . . . . .	453
X1.7	Final Warranty Acceptance . . . . .	454
X1.8	General Provisions . . . . .	454
<b>Appendix X2 Acceptance of Work Statistical Evaluation of Work for Acceptance . . . . .</b>		<b>455</b>
X2.1	General. . . . .	455
X2.2	Acceptance . . . . .	457
X2.3	Quality Level Analysis. . . . .	460
X2.4	Pay Factor Determination . . . . .	464
<b>Appendix X3 Measurement of Pavement Ride Quality Using Inertial Profiling Systems . . . . .</b>		<b>465</b>
X3.1	Part I: Technical Provision. . . . .	465
X3.2	Part II: Considerations. . . . .	468
<b>Appendix X4 Dispute Review Board (DRB) Three-Party Agreement and Operating Procedures . . . . .</b>		<b>471</b>
X4.1	Part 1: Contracts . . . . .	471
X4.2	Part 2: DRB Operating Procedures. . . . .	477
<b>Appendix X5 Pipe Culvert Inspection and Evaluation for New Construction . . . . .</b>		<b>483</b>
X5.1	Post-Installation Inspection of Pipe . . . . .	483
X5.2	Guide for Drainage Pipe Evaluation . . . . .	487
<b>Appendix X6 Nighttime Construction . . . . .</b>		<b>495</b>
X6.1	Technical Provision . . . . .	495
X6.2	Part II: Considerations. . . . .	500
<b>Appendix X7 Temporary Noise Suppression Devices . . . . .</b>		<b>509</b>
X7.1	Description. . . . .	509
X7.2	Material . . . . .	509
X7.3	Construction . . . . .	510
X7.4	Measurement . . . . .	510
X7.5	Payment . . . . .	510



## PREFACE

This is the tenth edition of the AASHTO Guide Specifications for Highway Construction. These specifications have been developed by the AASHTO Committee on Construction and are intended to complement the specifications for major structures and bridges, which are covered by the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Construction Specifications*.

The tenth edition of the AASHTO Guide Specifications provides guidance for developing transportation contract specifications. This edition has a number of updates including a focus on electronic submittals, updated environmental requirements, and revised materials specifications. The AASHTO, ASTM, and additional documentation references have also been updated to reflect the most current versions.

The many differences in climate, geology, geography, customs, statutes, and regulations make a national construction specification practically impossible. However, to provide for easier cross-referencing from state to state or with other agencies, this guide provides uniformity of nomenclature, format, methods of measurement, basis of payment, and method of tests. The guide specifications provide the specification writer with information and topics to be covered and expounded on in a detailed project construction specification.

The guide specifications divisions are subdivided into Description, Materials, Construction Requirements, Method of Measurement, and Basis of Payment. Items shown in brackets, such as [50], throughout the guide specifications are suggested values and should be changed, when necessary, to meet the requirements of the various agencies or project conditions.

Some sections of the guide specifications may be written in a manner to appear as absolute and definite. This is not intended to be the only approach to the content of the section, but to provide a detailed example of the topic.

AASHTO guide specifications are updated and republished periodically. The updated versions provide the user with products, systems, and specification topics that have been used since the last edition.